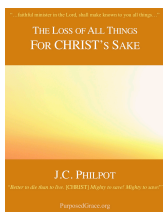


SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH

November 25th, 2018

“Let all those that seek thee
rejoice and be glad in thee: let
such as love thy salvation say
continually, The LORD be
magnified”

(PSALM 40:16)



New on our bookshelf... **J.C. Philpot**
The Loss of All Things for Christ's Sake

AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD AT
bookshelf.sovereigngrace.us

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**Sunday mornings beginning at 10 am,
and Wednesday evenings at 7 pm**

Services in Spanish Sunday evenings at 6 pm

Nursery

Nursery available for 4 years old and younger

Happy Birthday!

Catherine Young - December 1st

This evening's podcast will be from our PASTOR

ISAIAH 43 — SAVED

Recorded on Wednesday evening, November 12th, 2017

To find our podcast search for the keyword **PurposedGrace** on



Apple's **Podcast App** or



Google's **Play Music App**

THE UNCHANGEABLE LOVE OF THE CHIEF SHEPHERD

*"WHEN THE CHIEF SHEPHERD SHALL APPEAR, YE SHALL RECEIVE A CROWN OF
GLORY THAT FADETH NOT AWAY" (1 PETER 5:4)*

Peter speaks with the utmost confidence of the appearing of Christ, and of all His members being crowned in glory. Yes, he knew better than to make his Lord a liar; for if any one of them should perish in their sins, and by the force and fraud of Satan be dragged down to hell, then they would lose their crown in glory: but how then would the goodness of their Shepherd appear, if He suffered this? Peter never received nor ever taught such devilish, damnable doctrine; he too well knew the unchangeable love of the chief Shepherd. He knew Christ could not be glorified, nor would His heavenly Father be satisfied, without each and every one of His chosen, redeemed, justified, believing members were crowned in glory. He says, **"I am the good Shepherd; I know my sheep; I give my life for my sheep"** (JOHN 10). If but one of them was missing, He would ransack hell and the grave to find him, and to crown him. For, [first of all], Christ is our chief Shepherd: the sheep are all His own. (1.) By the gift of His Father, John 17:2. (2.) By the purchase of His blood; our souls are bought with that precious price, 1 Corinthians 6:20. (3.) As a shepherd He calls us, and gathers us to Himself, by the grace of His word, and the power of His Spirit. (4.) He is what no other shepherd can be, and in this He is chief indeed to our souls. He is our life; *our life is not in our own keeping*, it can never be lost or forfeited; it is in our Head, safe and sure, certain and eternal. Being in union to and communion with Christ by faith, we now enjoy the earnest of glory in the spiritual blessings and comforts of this life. When we find our hearts holy and happy, this is because Christ is our life;

when we groan under sin, and hunger and thirst after righteousness, this is because Christ is our life: thus Christ, our chief Shepherd, appears now in the spirit and life of our souls. [Secondly] Christ shall appear. As verily as He once appeared as a mean man, and hung as a vile malefactor, to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself, He shall appear to be glorified in His saints, and to be admired in all them who believe.—But, says a poor sensible sinner, how shall I appear before Him? I deserve ever to be banished from Him. True; but, [consider it beloved] You shall receive from Him a never-fading crown of glory: that dear hand which was nailed to the cross for you shall be stretched forth to crown you. O Lord! is it possible? I am not worthy of this.—True: so you will think to all eternity; therefore you will sing, *“Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory, and blessing...for ever and ever”* (REVELATION 5:12-14).

[PASTOR] WILLIAM MASON

DEPART FROM EVIL

“DEPART FROM EVIL, AND DO GOOD; AND DWELL FOR EVERMORE” (PSALM 37:27)

Reader, don't give place to the devil, rather *“Depart from evil, and do good; and dwell for evermore.”* My friend, depart from unbelief; depart from evil; turn to God from your idols. The believer's desire is to forsake that which is not honoring to the Lord and His gospel, and to do that which is honoring to Him, who is our Lord and God.

What did Abraham do when God called him out of idolatry from his homeland? He departed. In effect, God said ‘Get out!’ and Abraham departed evil; beloved that's what we're to do—depart from evil.

Old Saul of Tarsus, once a Pharisee trying to establish his own righteousness by the deeds of the law; God made him a new creature in Christ Jesus. God put him in the dust; turning him from *“breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord”* (ACTS 9:1) to preaching *“Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ, Who gave himself for our sins”* (GALATIANS 1:3-4).

When our Lord conquered Paul and put his head into the dust, remember what he said? Luke records in the book of Acts *“And Paul trembling and astonished said, Lord, what would thou have me to do?”* [ACTS 9:6].

While I understand the expression “a great man of God,” I would much rather say Paul was a man greatly used of our Lord to do much good. Reader are you a believer? May God give both the reader and the writer alike, the same unction to ever ask the Lord—*“what would thou have me to do?”* not to be saved, but because beloved we are already saved. May God grant us to ever *“depart from evil, and do good”* for His Son's glory, and the good of His people. AMEN!

PASTOR

GOD WILL SAVE & TEACH SINNERS

“GOOD AND UPRIGHT IS THE LORD:

THEREFORE WILL HE TEACH SINNERS IN THE WAY.” (PSALM 25:8)

Here are two characters the most opposite: [the] good and upright LORD —wicked and perverse sinners. Good and upright as the LORD is, He might justly damn sinners. But no, oh condescending grace! He will not leave sinners to perish in their ignorance and obstinacy; He will teach them. It is said of one, that after his conversion he could scarcely mention the name of JESUS without a tear. Oh, had it not been for His redemption, no sinner would have had Divine teaching! But all whom Christ has redeemed by His blood, the Spirit teaches by His power; this is His office in the covenant of grace; this implies, that so ignorant are sinners of Divine truths, that no teaching besides the Lord the Spirit can instruct and make them wise unto salvation. Come, sinner, come down from the altitudes of thy fancied wisdom and boasted knowledge, and learn this humbling truth tonight: if thou seest thy own ignorance, and thy want of being Divinely taught, rejoice at this declaration; cry to the Spirit, Lord teach me. [And who will He teach?] Only such as are good and upright like Himself? No, but such are of a contrary character, *“sinners;”* whose carnal minds are enmity against His holy law, who are *“sold under sin,”* and in whose flesh dwells no good thing. [Reader] is this thy character? The Lord will teach such, *“in the way.”* What way? Not in the way of sin, that is contrary to His holiness; not in the way of self-righteousness, that is contrary to His truth; but in the knowledge of Christ, who is the Way; the way of access to God, acceptance with God, justification before God, and everlasting life as the free gift of God, according to the covenant grace and everlasting love of God. By repentance unto life in this way of peace, in this walk of faith, in this path of love, truth, and holiness, the Spirit will teach redeemed sinners on earth, till He brings them to glory. His teaching shall be as effectual to their glorification as the death of Christ for their salvation. Poor sinner, who like me art [often] distressed and dejected with thy wicked nature, take comfort tonight from these two truths. Till Satan can blot them out of God’s book, or make us worse than sinners, they stand on record for our comfort; (1.) “Christ Jesus came to save sinners:” (2.) God “will teach sinners.” Look then to the finished salvation of the Lord Jesus Christ. Look to the Spirit, to teach thee the glory of it, to bear witness to thy soul of interest in it, and to fill thee with joy and peace by it [1 TIMOTHY 1:15].

*When we consult with flesh and blood, We quit the power of faith,
And cry, “The news of truth’s too good;” Rejecting what God saith.*

*Saints, if you’d live and walk in peace, Your reason in pride forego;
Look simply to the God of grace, Whose power can all things do.*

[PASTOR] **WILLIAM MASON**